

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION SS-25

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R 121216Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7737

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ATABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T NAIROBI 1405

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, MILI, KE, SO, FT, ET, EG, TC

SUBJECT: KENYAN WORRIES ABOUT THE HORN

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. SENIOR KENYAN OFFICIALS HAVE REITERATED GOK POLICY NOT TO RECOGNIZE MPLA. KENYANS ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT CUBAN FORCES IN ANGOLA, WHICH THEY FEAR COULD SET PRECEDENT FOR SIMILAR ACTION IN SUPPORT OF SOMALI TERRITORIAL CLAIMS ON KENYA, ETHIOPIA AND TFAI. GOK HAS INFORMATION FROM SOURCE THEY BELIEVE RELIABLE THAT 1250 CUBAN TROOPS ARE CURRENTLY IN SOMALIA, HAVING RECENTLY BEEN MOVED FROM THE SOUTH TO TFAI BORDER. KENYA IS ATTEMPTING TO IMPROVE ITS OWN MILITARY DETERRENT CAPABILITY TO MEET POTENTIAL SOMALI THREAT, AND AT SAME TIME IS URGING ETHIOPIA, EGYPT, SUDAN, UAE, KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA TO ACT IN CONCERT (BUT WITHOUT FORMAL PACT) TO PRESERVE PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE HORN. END SUMMARY

2. LAST NIGHT I DINED WITH LEONARD KIBINGE, PERMSEC

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MOFA, AT HIS HOME. ONLY OTHERS PRESENT WERE PERMSEC MOD

JEREMIAH KIEREINI AND NICHOLAS N'GANG'A, PERMSEC MIN
FINANCE AND PLANNING. PENETRATINGLY FRANK DISCUSSION
TOOK PLACE WHICH PROVIDED INSIGHT INTO CURRENT POLICY AND
POLITICO-STRATEGIC THINKING OF GOK.

3. GOK CONTINUES TO STAND FANT IN ITS POSITION ON
ANGOLA. BASIC THOUGHT ON ANGOLA IS GOK RECOGNITION OF
WHAT THE PEOPLE OF ANGOLA WANT, NOT WHAT A LIBERATION
GROUP OR POLITICAL PARTY WANTS. ONLY SOLUTION IS FOR
MPLA TO SHOW THE PEOPLE THAT THEY (NETO) CAN PROVIDE
LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE OF PEOPLE'S WISHES. IT WILL BE
DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO DO SO WITH
CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SOVIET INFLUENCE AND CUBAN TROOPS
WILL ONLY CONTINUE TO AGGRAVATE SITUATION. GOK WILL NOT
RECOGNIZE MPLA-GOVERNMENT UNTIL SUCH ACHIEVED.

4. GOK CONCERN GOES MUCH DEEPER AND TO POINT NEARER
HOME (THE HORN). WORRISOME TO GOK IS APPARENT INTERNATIONAL
SANCTION OF USE OF FOREIGN (CUBAN) ARMY IN AFRICA (ANGOLA)
TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL OBJECTIVES (RECOGNITION OF MPLA).
GOK FEELS ANGOLA-TYPE SITUATION HAS HIGH POTENTIAL IN
HORN WHERE SOVIET SPONSORED AND DIRECTED CUBAN TROOPS IN
SOMALIA COULD OBTAIN TERRITORIAL OBJECTIVES FOR SOMALIA
(AND SOVIETS); AND THAT SUCH ACTION COULD BE ACHIEVED
WITH INTERNATIONAL INACTION OF NOT SANCTION. KIEREINI
INFORMED ME HE HAD LEARNED FROM USUALLY RELIABLE, REGULAR
SOURCE THAT THERE ARE NOW 1250 CUBAN TROOPS IN SOMALIA;
RECENTLY THEY WERE MOVED FROM SOUTH TO TFAI BORDER,
INTERPRETED BY GOK AS PREPAREDNESS TO USE AS FIGHTING
FORCE.

5. CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN HORN, PARTICULARLY AGGRESSIVE
AND SOMEWHAT DEVIANT ACTIONS BY SOMALI, HAVE LED GOK

TO EVEN GREATER LEVEL OF CONCERN REGARDING NEED TO
INCREASE THEIR MILITARY STRENGTH TO DETERRENT STATUS.

6. MEANWHILE, KIBINGE STATED, GOK POLICY--IN ATTEMPT
TO ENSURE PEACE AND STABILITY IN HORN--IS FOR KENYA, W
ETHIOPIA, EGYPT, SUDAN, ABU DHABI, KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA TO
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AGREE TO INDIVIDUALLY ACT TOGETHER TOWARD THIS OBJECTIVE.
KIBINGE HAS ALREADY TALKED TO ALL BUT SAUDIS, BUT
BELIEVES THEY, TOO, WILL AGREE. WHILE SUCH CONCERTED
ACTION WILL NOT BE FORMALIZED IN PACT OR PUBLICLY
ANNOUNCED, GOK HOPES THAT UNIFIED APPROACH WILL PROVE
EFFECTIVE IN INFLUENCING SOMALIS IN WAY WHICH NEITHER
ARAB LEAGUE NOR OAU COULD ACHIEVE. GOK HAS NO DOUBTS,
ALL THREE DINNER PARTNERS AGREED THAT SOMALIA WISHES

TO FORCE FRANCE TO LEAVE TFAI SO TERRITORY CAN THEN
BECOME PART OF SOMALIA.
MARSHALL

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